ACH Trauma
T/L-Spine Clearance

Disclaimer: This clinical pathway is provided as a general guideline for use by Licensed Independent Provider’s (LIPs) in planning care and treatment of patients. It is not intended to be and does not establish a standard of care. Each patient’s care is individualized according to specific needs.

Isolated transverse process fractures:
- No spine consult necessary regardless of location, displacement, or number
- CTA of the neck should be performed if foramen transversarium is involved. Consult neurosurgery if CTA shows vascular injury. No consult necessary if CTA is normal.

Isolated spinous process fractures:
- Consult spine service for any spinous process fractures of C2-T1
- No spine consult necessary for spinous process fractures of T2 and below regardless of number or displacement

Does the patient have any of the following:
- Altered LOC
- Neurological deficit
- Midline tenderness
- T/L – Spine Pain
- C – Spine Injury
- Distracting Injury
- Intoxication

Planning C/A/P CT Scan?

NO

Neurological Deficit?

YES

T and/or L Spine X-Rays

NO

Spine Clear

NORMAL

Spine MRI

ABNORMAL

Consult Spine Team

YES

T and/or L Spine CT

NO

ABNORMAL

Reformate T and L Spine from C/A/P CT

YES
Revision Notes

- Trauma Council Approval: 9-1-2020